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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP
NEW WAR DEPARTMENT BUILDING
21st and VIRGINIA AVENUE, N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

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20 April 1946

MEMORANDUM FOR ADMIRAL SOUERS

SUBJECT: Procurement of Key Personnel for C.R.S. 2

1. That the C.R.S. has not yet progressed beyond the production of a daily summary is a matter of grave concern. Further progress cannot be made with the present staff, limited as it is in both numbers and experience. Solution of the problem requires the early procurement, not merely of additional personnel, but of personnel experienced in the interpretation of the strategic significance of Departmental information and intelligence.

2. The sorts of persons currently being pressed on the C.R.S. do not meet that specification. They are generally junior professional types (about grade P-5), interested and presumably able, but without experience in preparing strategic intelligence estimates and without standing in the Departmental intelligence agencies. It is apparent that, generally speaking, Departmental personnel agencies will nominate only persons outside of the Departments or regarded as surplus by them. Direct recruitment of recommended professors and journalists will not meet the basic need; they may have greater maturity of judgment or more highly developed technical skills, but in general they will lack experience in strategic intelligence and standing in the Departments. The C.R.S. cannot pretend to the last word in strategic intelligence while conducting a training course for unknown and inexperienced personnel. It is essential that key men be drawn from those trained and proved in the Departments, however reluctant the Departments may be to supply them.

3. The crux of the problem is the procurement of properly qualified chiefs for the five regional sections now contemplated. This done, the rest will be relatively easy. Moreover, these men should have a voice in the selection of their subordinates. ###

4. My recommendations with respect to these five positions are as follows:

a. Western Europe-Africa. A Foreign Service Officer should be appointed. I consider it essential that one such officer should hold an important position in C.R.S., and this seems the most convenient and appropriate place for him. Mr. McCormack has agreed in principle, I am in consultation with Mr. Chapin regarding the matter, and I hope soon to be able to name an individual.

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b. Eastern Europe-U.S.S.R. The best qualified individual, in my estimation, is Colonel Richard Park, Jr., presently Russian specialist in M.I.S.

c. Middle East-India. The best qualified individual, in my estimation, is Lt. Colonel George C. McDowell, formerly Middle East Specialist in M.I.S. He has been separated from the Army, but is being employed by M.I.S. as a P-8.

d. FarEast-Pacific. I understand that Captain E.S. Pearce, USN, is available for this position, although the effective date is unclear.

e. Western Hemisphere. Mr. S.A.D. Hunter would be acceptable in this position, if available. If the other positions are filled as recommended, this one should go to Navy.

5. If the services of these officers can be obtained, I am confident of the capabilities of the C.R.S. for constructive achievement. If I must accept instead persons of inferior qualifications, the result must be less satisfactory. The issue is crucial for C.R.S. and C.I.G.

6. In the last analysis, the crucial point in this program is the procurement of Colonel Park and Mr. McDowell. General Vandenberg must inevitably be loath to release them. At the same time, I have complete faith in his professed interest in strengthening the C.I.G. Even so, I do believe that your intercession with him, or Mr. Douglass's, will be necessary to obtain their assignment. I therefore request it.

Ludwell L. Montague

LUDWELL L. MONTAGUE
Acting Chief, C.R.S.

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